

ESTATE CLOSING FOR BEGINNERS

A free resource from Sunrise Estate Services Your Family-First Estate Sale Services





APPRAISALS

The number one rule for closing a loved one's estate is

"Don't toss before you appraise."

While your grandmother's antique clock collection may seem like nothing more than a noisy nuisance, or a collection of sentimental trinkets, those antique clocks may end up being quite valuable.

Oftentimes, a long life means a lifetime of accumulated memories and treasures. And while all of those treasures will likely hold sentimental value, many of them may hold monetary value as well. That's why we cannot stress enough the importance of getting your loved one's estate and property appraised before you decide to host an estate sale or put things up for auction.

If you're going to splurge anywhere throughout this process, this would be the place to do it. That way, even if you're planning on holding your own estate sale, auctioning of items on online sites, or selling on marketplaces, you'll at least have a starting point for pricing the items.

Of course, things will be given to family and friends that were either Willed to them or were decided amongst the family that certain people should have certain items. That's perfectly fine. But afterwards, there will likely be some leftover items that look worthless, however may end up being worth quite a bit. That's why appraisals are necessary.

Understanding the value of your estate and property is the first step to making the right choices for auctions and sales. When you want to get the most value from your property, working with Certified Appraisers ensures no money is left on the table. That's why Sunrise Estate Services offers **appraisal services** to our clients. We'll help you check it off your list so you can ensure that your loved one's treasures and memories are treated with love and respect while **making the most out of an often overwhelming, sad situation.**





ESTATE SALES

You've had your loved one's treasured mementos appraised by a professional, and now it's time to hold an estate sale. However, keep in mind that estate sales are not like your typical yard sale, so you might want to have a real estate agent or estate services expert nearby to assist you. To attract the most interested buyers, we advise holding an estate sale on a weekend.

As the executor of the estate, you are personally and financially responsible for all of the assets within the estate.

There is a reason we often warn against selling an estate as a complete lot, and it's because of your financial responsibility to the estate. If you were to sell the content as a complete lot for, say, \$10,000, and it turns out that it's actually worth a total of \$750,000, you can (and likely will) be held financially responsible to the estate and the beneficiaries for the difference.

However, we also know that selling decades worth of memories piece by piece can be a long, arduous process as well, which is the reason we recommend the use of an estate services company, like **Sunrise Estate Services**, that can help you with appraisals, donations, disposals, gifts to family members, estate sales, and even auctions.

If you find yourself thrust into the role of executor (even if you knew it was coming), the best action plan is to try to emotionally detach yourself from the property and its contents (where possible), and then hire an estate services company to come in and do the hard work for you.

Managing the estate of your departed loved one can be challenging and emotionally taxing. Our team at Sunrise Estate Services is here to liquidate the estate quickly and effectively while attending to your needs with respect and compassion.



AUCTIONS

When closing an estate, one of the first things many executors think of putting items up for sale on online marketplaces or auction websites like eBay. Many believe it's both cheaper and easier to liquidate an estate through these means, but the simple truth is that it's neither cheaper nor easier.

Aside from the time it will take you to take pictures of each item, create listings, answer questions, ship items out in the case of online auction sites, or wait for pick up from buyers on marketplaces, it's also highly likely that you **won't** get proper pricing on your items this way. You can, of course, take the time and attempt to appraise items yourself through internet searches, but these are often unreliable and incredibly time-consuming.

If your loved one's estate is small, and there are very few items that won't be distributed among family and friends, then selling them yourself could potentially be cheaper than hiring a liquidating service, but if the estate contains more than just a few sentimental items, an estate services company will do all of the heavy lifting (literally!) for you.

There are many estate service companies that will connect you with auction houses in order to help with the liquidation process, but there are others, such as Sunrise Estate Services, that will handle everything auction related right on their **own live auction site**, where they can connect your property with global network of high-paying buyers ready to pay top dollar for your loved one's keepsakes. Not only do we appraise, categorize, and package your property for sale, we facilitate the entire process so you can enjoy a profitable sale with no effort.





PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

One of the last things to consider before the estate liquidation process comes to a close is what is going to happen to your loved one's home and property. Do you keep it? Sell it? Rent it out? There are so many things to think about when it comes to home and property management after the death of a loved one.

But the property management begins even before a decision is made. Do you have the time to handle the lawn care or snow removal? If you plan to keep it for a while, who will handle the interior maintenance of the house? There are only so many hours in a day and we don't always have the time to dedicate to the upkeep of a house we are not living in.

Of course, hiring contractors to take care of all of these things separately is always an option, but that can end up being quite costly as well as time-consuming as you research and search for the best, most cost-effective contractors out there. However, there is another option!

This is where estate service companies that handle property management and maintenance come in. An estate service that handles property management will not only save you money, but they'll also take all of that stress off of your shoulders. A company like Sunrise Estate Services, for instance, will take care of everything from lawn care to snow removal to long-term interior care. And we do it all while ensuring that your loved one's property retains its maximum value for potential resale – if that's what you end up deciding to do.

Our staff at Sunrise Estate Services will check the interior and exterior of your property twice weekly to ensure everything is properly maintained and will arrange for repairs, acquire quotes, and ensure repairs are completed as required.

We also offer customizable packages that are available for both monthly and short-term property care. We help manage your property so you don't lose out on the sentimental and monetary value it holds.



WHO TO CALL

Sunrise Estate Services is a full service estate management and services company that is here for your peace of mind. We put your family first and here to share in the burden of estate clearing so that you can focus on what matters most-your family.

If you're planning to liquidate a loved one's estate, downsize your current estate, or need help with appraising property, call <u>Sunrise Estate Services</u>: estate management for a brighter tomorrow.















